

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please delete the last paragraph of the specification on page 4 of the application and replace it with the following corrected paragraph. A marked-up version of the paragraph is shown on the next page:

-- The apparatus may also comprise a buffer or deflector at any position along the guideways to return the reciprocating means back to the user after the ball is struck. The backboard or target acts as a buffer or deflector.--

Please delete the last paragraph of the specification, just before the claims, and replace it with the following corrected paragraph. A marked-up version of the paragraph is shown on the next page.

--It will be appreciated that the foregoing is merely exemplary of embodiments of the invention and that modifications can readily be made without departing from the scope of the invention as set out in the appended claims. Thus, the supports 2 may be replaced by a frame comprising a pair of interconnected tripods to which the upper end of the guideways are secured. A target or rebound board 12 may be supported between the tripods in the path of trajectory of the ball.--

**Version of Specification Showing Changes Made**

**1. Last paragraph, page 4:**

--The apparatus may also comprise [buffering and/or deflecting means] a buffer or deflector at any position along the guideways to return the reciprocating means back to the user after the ball is struck. The backboard or target [may also act as a] acts as a [buffering and/or deflecting means] buffer or deflector.--

**2. Last paragraph before the claims:**

--It will be appreciated that the foregoing is merely exemplary of embodiments of the invention and that modifications can readily be made without departing from the scope of the invention as set out in the appended claims. Thus, the supports 2 may be replaced by a frame comprising a pair of interconnected tripods to which the upper end of the guideways are secured. A target or rebound board 12 may be supported between the tripods in the path of trajectory of the ball.--